

Limerick Reformed Fellowship
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October 15, 2012

Dear saints in the
Protestant Reformed Churches,

October is here, so it is time for another update from Limerick.

It might be good to reintroduce our members and regular attendees: Terry Casey and his two children, Clara (16) and Stephen (14); Bill Davies; Manuel and Emily-Kate Kuhs and their son, Sebastian (1); Samuel and Anganeta [Anga] Watterson; Alfonso and Salome Mansona and their sons, Chester (16) and Dale (14); Marco Barone; Viktorija Kodija and her son, Denzel (3) [see photo]; and Manuel's younger brothers, students at the University of Limerick, René and Sven Kuhs. With German, Italian, Latvian, Irish, Welsh, and Filipino saints we are an international group! In addition, we eagerly anticipate the birth of the Wattersons' first child at the end of November, and the Kuhs have just announced that they are expecting their second child next May. These are very encouraging developments, and an evident token that the Lord is blessing us and continuing His covenant in our midst!

The saints are using and profiting from the regular means of grace.

We finished a sermon series on Philemon just before the BRF Conference in July, and I have almost finished a new series on Samson (Judges 13-16; "Samson: Strong in the



Lord, Weak in the Flesh"). Attendance at our services is steady, with between fifteen and twenty every week.

Soon, we will have finished our *Essentials of Reformed Doctrine* class. We recently began Eschatology (Lessons 28-30), and I estimate that it will take at least eight weeks to finish the material. Eschatology is another subject that, although popular among evangelicals, is controversial because there are so many bizarre views that need to be explained and refuted to clear the way for sober Reformed Amillennialism! I enjoy very much researching for and teaching the class. My situation is not like regular *Essentials* classes in the PRCA because my class does not consist of teenagers—but I still make them learn the Q&As, and they do!—and, since I do not have the constraints of time and set catechism seasons, I can spend as many weeks on a given topic as I deem necessary. All the outlines of the lessons are available online for interested persons to read (<http://www.limerickreformed.com/articles/by-type/catechism-lessons>).

The other catechism class, *Old Testament for Seniors*, with Chester, Stephen, and Dale (see photo below) is also going very well. It is such a joy to have three well behaved, enthusiastic, well prepared catechumens whose only complaint is, "Pastor, that was a big short today!" Because the *OT/NT Seniors* books do not include a Bible verse for memorisation, I have added a memory verse for every week. It is good to

have children memorise Scripture when they are young.

Several months ago, I started a second *Essentials* class in the home of the Mansonas, but because they were in the Philippines for much of the summer and then I was away at the BRF Conference and Young People's Convention, that class was postponed. After a long break, we recommenced last week and covered the Incommunicable Attributes of God. It was great to see parents and children alike—for Alfonso, Salome, Chester, and Dale were all there—learning about the wonders of our great God. God willing, we will meet again this Saturday. The schedule of the Mansona family is so irregular (they are Filipino immigrants) that I try to meet them when both Alfonso and Salome are free at the same time.

God willing, after the Samson series, I will be preaching a special sermon for family visitation, and we can conduct that good, Reformed practice for the second time in Limerick. The saints certainly received it with enthusiasm last time.

Marco Barone, the Italian student from Italy I mentioned last time, has settled into life in Limerick. It is considerably colder and wetter in Ireland than in his native Italy, but he assures me that the preaching of the gospel and the Christian fellowship here more than compensate for that. He is living in my apartment, which gives me

good company, good food (Marco is an excellent Italian chef), and help with the website—Manuel Kuhs has given Marco plenty of editing work for the website, and Marco has proved very efficient and obliging.

When I was at the BRF Conference I gave a speech on mission work. The speech was entitled, "Mission Work: Message and Methods." I certainly am no authority on the subject of missions, but one point I stressed was that we need *simple* materials (pamphlets, tracts, etc.) which are distinctly Reformed, not "dumbed down," but simple enough for non-churched people to understand. The PRCA produce excellent pamphlets, but many of them are aimed at a nominally Reformed audience. We simply do not have such an audience in Ireland. Therefore, I have begun writing my own tracts and short articles—"Are You A Good Person?" "What About My Good Works?" "What About Mary?" etc. We have included some of them on our blog, and we plan to distribute one of these tracts, entitled "*In Debt to God*," door-to-door in Limerick. We hope that this will be a means of making the gospel known in our local community.

Pray for us, that God "would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ" (Col. 4:3).

The Lord bless you all,

In Christian love,
Rev. Martyn McGeown